



# Newsline

A glance at news affecting Laughlin

## Pilot Awards



Specialized Undergraduate Pilot Training Class 00-02 award winners:

**2nd Lt. Erik J. Mars** – Order of Daedalians AETC Commander’s Trophy, Distinguished Graduate, Flying Training, Academic and Daedalian Awards

**2nd Lt. Kristof K. Sills** – Order of Daedalians AETC Commander’s Trophy, Distinguished Graduate, Flying Training and Academic Training Awards.

**1st Lt. Matthew M. Simmons** – Outstanding Officer

**2nd Lt. Norman B. Shaw** – Distinguished Graduate

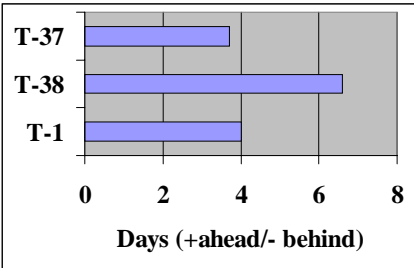
## Promotion event

There will be an enlisted promotion ceremony 3:30 p.m. **Nov. 30** at Club Amistad.

## Mission status

(As of Nov. 24)

### Student Timeline



*Sorties flown in FY 00:*  
**10,547**  
*Hours flown in FY 00:*  
**15,923**  
*Pilot wings earned in FY 00:*  
**51**  
*Pilot wings earned since 1963:*  
**11,400**



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

## Native dance

Airman 1st Class Karla Locklear, 47th Medical Group, performs the women’s fancy shawl dance at the American Indian Heritage Seminar here Monday. “Little One,” Locklear’s Indian name, who is of the Lumbee Tribe in Robeson County, N.C., said the dance symbolizes a woman coming into her beauty like a butterfly breaking from its cocoon. The dance was among several native American showcases at the event held in observance of American Indian Heritage Month.

If you’ve missed editions of the Border Eagle, check out the Border Eagle Online at [www.laughlin.af.mil/basenewspaper](http://www.laughlin.af.mil/basenewspaper).

# Shoppers, visitors to Mexico should know the rules

By **1st Lt. Angela O’Connell**  
*Public affairs officer*

With the holiday shopping season quickly approaching, many of us will start our search for the “perfect” gift.

Mexico can be the perfect place to find the gift that no one else has; however, we must not forget Mexico is another country with it’s own culture, customs and laws.

The Del Rio Chamber of Commerce offers a few simple tips that can help any wayward traveler survive a trip to Mexico, hassle-free. The most important is to bring identification. Carry it with you at all times. If you have children, you should remember to bring their birth certificate and photo identification, as well.

Mexico has a very strict policy prohibiting firearms and ammunition across the border. Please leave firearms at home and check your vehicle for any left over ammunition from hunting trips. It can be longer than a night it can be years.

If you plan on driving your own vehicle, make sure you have current insurance and it has a provision for international travel. Many insurance companies sell policies that will cover your vehicle if you’re driving a few miles into a foreign country.

Another route is to take a taxi or park on the U.S. side and walk over. The main shopping thoroughfare is directly over the bridge. It is a three-quarter mile walk over the bridge.

Remember that you are the foreigner. Treat the Mexican citizens like you would like to be treated in a foreign country.

As far as spending the money for those “perfect” gifts, most all of the shops will accept American money and credit cards. Most of the shop owners will bargain over prices, which may help you get those souvenirs at a lower price.

Upon re-entry, claim everything! You will avoid a **See ‘Mexico,’ page 17**

## the inside scoop

### Commander corner...

Major Bruce Allen, 47th Medical Support Squadron commander, suggests re-focusing after tragedy.

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### Airman’s medal...

Three enlisted members here receive the airman’s medal for efforts during the flood in 98

**Page 4**

### Dear Abby...

Operation Dear Abby gets greetings to service members who will spend the holidays overseas.

**Page 7**

# Commander

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## Refocusing after tragedy reminds us of things that make life good



**Maj. Bruce Allen**  
47th Medical Support Squadron commander

Recently Walter Payton, the greatest all-around running back in professional football history, passed away.

Having been born and reared in the Chicago area, and a Chicago Bears fan (as well as a fan of all Chicago professional teams, even the lovable but often laughable Chicago Cubs), Walter Payton represented to me the quintessential sports icon. In 13 years of professional football, he missed only one single game. Despite all his accomplishments, Walter Payton contracted a rare disease and died

at the age of 45. The day of his death, I received a call asking if I had heard of his death. I knew he was ill, but did not think he was in such imminent danger.

When a family member or someone we respect passes away, we often reflect on our own lives. I first hesitate and say a short prayer thanking God for blessing me with good health. Then I try to find deeper understanding, insight and strength. Often the overriding thoughts that occupy my mind at times like these are just

how fragile, sacred and temporal our lives are; and, more significantly, how one can best live their life regardless of what may transpire.

While thinking about this, I recalled reading an interpretation of the instructions of Epictetus. He was a former Roman slave turned philosopher, whose writings focused on three very important issues that are helpful to me in thinking about what constitutes a good life. The three issues addressed virtue (spiritual), happiness (personal) and effectiveness (social).

Epictetus's prescription for the good life centered on mastering one's own desires, performing duties in a responsible manner, and understanding one's purpose in relation to the larger community in which we exist. In simple terms, what matters most in life is what sort of person one becomes and what sort of life one lives.

The following instructions helped me refocus in a more positive, reaffirming manner:

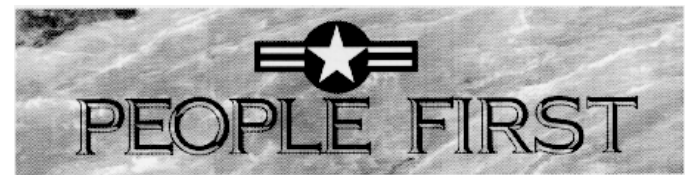
1. Some things are within our control; some things are not. Only after accepting this fundamental rule can inner

tranquility and personal effectiveness occur. Failure to accept this will lead to frustration, anger and disharmony.

2. Create your own merit. Personal merit derives from getting down to business and doing the very best you can in everything you do. Focus on doing excellent work for its own sake – if you are going to spend precious time out of your life, spend the time in worthy ef-

**See 'Refocus,' page 17**

*Often the overriding thoughts that occupy my mind at times like these are just how fragile, sacred and temporal our lives are.*



## Planning secures future

**WASHINGTON** — It is never too soon to start planning for your financial future.

While military and civilian retirement systems provide many benefits, proper financial planning can augment these and greatly enhance quality of life.

To assist airmen, family members, and Department of Defense civilians in developing the best possible plan for their financial future, the Air Force has established a well-trained cadre of financial management counselors.

Family support centers throughout the Air Force provide personal financial management as one of their core services. Counselors offer a variety of workshops including home buying, understanding mutual funds, investments, and relocation and retirement planning.

Additionally, the program offers assistance in budget preparation, debt consolidation and consumer economics. Also available is one-on-one counseling to assist individuals and couples in designing a financial plan for their specific needs and goals.

The personal financial management program is also a key element in the complete package of transition assistance services offered through the family support center. The staff emphasizes the importance of financial preparation to any successful career or life change. They offer assistance in analyzing current status and developing goals and action plans for continued success.

Counselors are available both for individual appointments and to give presentations to units and organizations. Their goal is to assist the entire Air Force family in enhancing their financial security.

More information on the personal financial management program is available at family support centers.

For more on this subject, try the Air Force Link Search Engine.

### Actionline

Call 298-5351

when appropriate.

If your question relates to the general interest of the people of Laughlin, the question and answer may also be printed in the *Border Eagle*. Before you call the Actionline, please try to work the problem out through the normal chain of command or directly with the base agency involved.

Thanks for your cooperation and I look forward to reading some quality ideas and suggestions.

*W. W. Scott III*

**Col. Winfield W. Scott III**  
47th Flying Training Wing commander



AAFES	298-3176
Accounting and Finance	298-5204
Civil Engineer	298-5252
Civilian Personnel	298-5299
Commissary	298-5815
Dormitory manager	298-5213
Hospital	298-6311
Housing	298-5904
Inspector General	298-5638
Legal	298-5172
Military Personnel	298-5073
Public Affairs	298-5988
Security Forces	298-5900
Services	298-5810
Equal Opportunity	298-5400
FWA hotline	298-4170

**C**all: I am concerned that Club XL has taken away Monday night football this year. The thing that bothers me the most, is the fact that they did not advertise about it and there will be about twenty-five people there tonight who will not be very happy since we were not aware of the change. Thank you.

**R**esponse: We apologize we did

not get to advertise the cancellation of the Monday night lounge operation at Club XL. When we received the approval to cancel Tony's Discount Steak Night, it was too late to get the information in the base newspaper. Tony Sadowski, the originator of Tony's Discount Steak Night, was in the Club XL bar on Monday Nov. 1

taking the monthly inventory. Tony said he thought three people came by and we do apologize for the inconvenience to them. The Monday night football program, "Football Frenzy" was not done at all this year in the Officers' lounge. The program had slight participation for the past two years so the manager did not sign up the lounge

for the program this year. The TV in the lounge had the football game on but the "Football Frenzy" program itself was not being done. The Monday night lounge operation and Tony's Discount Steak Night were cancelled due to the loss in revenue to the club. Once again, we apologize for the lack of notification on the cancellation.



## Border Eagle

Col. Winfield W. Scott III  
*Commander*1st Lt. Angela O'Connell  
*Public affairs officer*Senior Airman Mike Hammond  
*Editor*Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit  
*Staff writer*(Flag design: Staff Sgt. Marc Barnes,  
7th Bomb Wing, Dyess AFB, Texas.)

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**Deadlines, Advertising**

News for the Border Eagle should be submitted to the 47th Flying Training Wing Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 338, Laughlin AFB, TX, Ext. 5262. **Copy deadline is close of business each Thursday the week prior to publication.** Advertising should be submitted to the Del Rio News-Herald, 2205 Bedell, Del Rio, TX, 774-4611. Advertising should be submitted by 4 p.m. each Friday. Submissions can be E-mailed to: michael.hammond@laughlin.af.mil or reginal.woodruff@laughlin.af.mil

Visit Laughlin's website at <http://www.lau.aetc.af.mil/>

***“Excellence –  
not our goal, but  
our standard.”***  
– 47 FTW motto

**Safety Stats**

As of Nov. 16, 1999  
(Fiscal Year)

	'00	Total '99
On-duty mishaps	1	5
Off-duty mishaps	1	12
Traffic mishaps	0	2
Sports & Rec mishaps	1	6
Fatalities	0	0

# Newton gives command day to spend with family

**By Gen. Lloyd W. “Fig” Newton**  
*Air Education and Training Command commander*

“Happy Thanksgiving.” The Air Education and Training Command has enjoyed an extremely successful year. Each of you have worked very hard and I am proud of what you have accomplished.

Accordingly, it is that time of year to give thanks for our blessings and spend time with our families and loved ones. I am directing that AETC will have a down day by declaring Friday, Nov. 26, as a Thanksgiving AETC family day.

The Thanksgiving holiday weekend (Nov. 25-28) will be a 4-day regular pass period. For military members required to perform duty on these days, commanders are encouraged to grant compensatory time-off during the first week following the holiday weekend, mission requirements permitting. Under current rules for Department of Defense civilians, commanders can encourage liberal leave, use of compensatory time, or use of already approved time-off awards.

I also want to offer my special thanks to all the spouses and children of our military members for their continuing support that keeps us the best Air Force in the world.

***When traveling home for the holidays, remember to obey the speed limit at all times to avoid wrecking the holiday season.***

# Animal shelter offers good pets to loving homes

**By Amanda Stewart**  
*47th Flying Training Wing public affairs volunteer*

Recently, I took on one of the most demanding, yet rewarding responsibilities of my life.

After making a recent trip to the City of Del Rio Animal Shelter, I not only left with a newfound respect and understanding for the contribution the shelter makes, but I also took home a personable, playful puppy, which I aptly named Benji.

How many times have your children asked for a pet and been told “no” for one reason or another? Many children dream of having their own cats and dogs. If you were one of those kids, or have a child who would enjoy a pet of his own, maybe now is the time to visit the shelter.

Kittens, puppies, cats and dogs are among the animals that are currently being held in the shelter. A fee of \$10 is required to adopt a kitten or puppy, while \$22 will get you an adult dog or cat.

When one adopts an animal, the original owner still has ten days to come to the shelter and claim it. Dan Garcia,

compliance officer for the Health Community Services of Del Rio, suggests that one keep the receipts from an animal adoption, because if the owner does come in to claim the pet, the adopter will be reimbursed for all money spent on the pet up to that point.

When adopting a pet, it is required that it be spayed or neutered. A time limit specifying when the operation should be done will be given to each person who adopts an animal. A certificate of appreciation will also be given to all those who adopt, which will take off 30 percent from the cost of the operation. The two local participating veterinarians that accept these certificates are Dr. Hermal L. Rathke and Dr. Pat R. Martin.

Older animals are the least adopted from the shelter. The reason for this is that many people may think they won't be able to form a personal relationship with an older animal. However, this isn't always true. Many of the dogs and cats at the shelter are either trained or extremely loveable and would make excellent additions to anyone's family.

# Families give strength

**Army Gen. Henry H. Shelton**  
*Chairman of the joint chiefs of staff*

From Nov. 21 - 28, our nation acknowledges the special demands that military life imposes on the families of those who serve in uniform when it celebrates Military Family Appreciation Week. This recognition is well deserved and comes at a high price. Family members endure numerous moves, the long working hours of loved ones and frequent separations and partings that often include the risk of death, injury, or capture at the hands of an enemy. Moreover, they often do this far from their extended families.

Our spouses and children bear these burdens out of a sense of patriotism as strong as those in the military. In doing so, they provide a source of strength and contribute to making America's military the best in the world. We simply could not achieve this high level of excellence without safe, secure, happy and productive military families.

This week provides an opportunity to acknowledge the personal sacrifices that take place every day within our local military communities and to thank our families for supporting servicemembers as well as their dedicated service to this nation.

The Joint Chiefs of Staff and I join every American in paying tribute to America's military families for all that they have done and continue to do for this country. Their support of the nation's servicemembers makes a difference for America and the world.

May god bless you and your family, and may god bless America.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brad Pettit

This dog longingly awaits adoption from the City of Del Rio Animal Shelter. He is one of the seven dogs currently inhabiting the shelter.

Wide ranges of animals arrive at the shelter daily, but are not always adopted in time and

**See ‘Shelter’ page 19**

# Renowned aerospace pioneer dies in home at age 86

By Ray Johnson

Air Force Flight Test Center Public Affairs

Aerospace medical pioneer Col. Dr. John Stapp died Nov. 13 at his home in Alamogordo, N.M., at age 89.

Stapp, renowned for his research on high-velocity ejections, developed the concept of measuring deceleration forces. Time and again during the late 1940s and early 50s, he was strapped into rocket-powered sleds to use himself as a subject to study the human body's tolerance for gravity forces and to develop various safety devices.

On June 1, 1951, Stapp sat in a sled at Edwards that was poised on a 2,000-foot deceleration track. Moments later, 40,000 pounds of rocket thrust blasted him down the track and into a braking system.

For a brief instant, Stapp endured 48 times the force of gravity, or Gs, with a rate of onset at roughly 500 Gs per second. In other words, his body absorbed an impact of more than four tons.

As his own volunteer subject, the colonel became known as the world's fastest man Dec. 10, 1954, when he took a bone-and-tissue-punishing 2,750-foot sled ride at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M. In less than a tenth of a second, rockets on back of the sled sent the vehicle at 19 Gs with 40,000 pounds of thrust.

Stapp's ride hit 632 m.p.h. — nearly supersonic speeds — before coming to a dead stop in 1.4 seconds, pushing him to 40 Gs. And, for an instant, his 168-pound body weighed 6,720 pounds.

The colonel literally saw red for eight minutes as his eyeballs pushed against upper eyelids, tugging at their attachments. He also suffered double vision for 20 minutes.

"It was like a dental extraction without anesthetic," he said in an article last year for "Airman" magazine.

Through these stress tests, Stapp personally identified and diagnosed the effects of extremely high Gs on humans. His analyses supplied data for aircraft, space

cabin and ground vehicle crash protection design.

Though black eyes, retinal hemorrhages, cracked ribs and broken bones were frequently Stapp's reward for his labors, he came away from these ordeals with the knowledge that countless lives would be saved by his efforts. Those lives saved included more than just aircrews. His research for the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration led to the standard use of seatbelts and airbags in cars and trucks.

"Today, everyone who flies in an airplane or rides in an automobile is safer because of his tremendous contributions," said Dr. Jim Young, Air Force Flight Test Center chief historian. "Although he never piloted an airplane, Colonel Stapp was a true aerospace hero."

Some of Stapp's honors include: National Aviation Hall of Fame; Jet Pioneers of America; International Space Hall of Fame; Safety Health Hall of Fame; Air Force Cheney Award for Valor; and the Lovelace Award awarded from NASA for aerospace medical research.

## Air Force to receive six F-22s in 2002

By Staff Sgt.  
Cynthia Miller

The Air Force will acquire six test F-22 aircraft in 2002 with funds provided by Congress in the budget resolution passed Oct. 5.

In the resolution, Congress delayed production of the F-22 from December 1999 to December 2000, and cut funding by \$560 million to make the Air Force justify the F-22's cost and prove its technology.

Instead of getting six production aircraft to complete operational testing, the Air Force will now receive six test aircraft.

"These six airplanes will be operational test and evaluation airplanes, because they come from research and development funds, but they will be production airplanes," said Maj. Gen. Claude Bolton, executive officer for fighter and bomber programs.

"You won't be able to tell the difference between what that aircraft will look like in a year or two, vice what it was going to

look like before we had to change the 'color' of money," he said.

With an aging fleet of F-15s, and the ability of adversaries and allies to match technology, the Air Force has embarked on a modernization program to maintain its edge on military strength and air dominance.

According to Bolton, the F-15 is on par with four other aircraft, including the Russian MiG-29 and MiG-35, the French Mirage 2000 and the Euro-fighter.

"There's only so much you can do after 30 years with an air frame," the general said.

"We've had a 100.5-to-zero kill ratio with the (F-15). We've not lost any F-15s to enemy fire. That's obviously something we want to continue into the next century."

The Air Force plans to buy 339 F-22 aircraft to replace the F-15 fleet. Bolton said he expects the F-22 to give the United States the edge in air dominance for the next 30 years or more.

The F-22 is designed to face modern adversarial aircraft equipped with advanced air-to-air missile systems and against integrated air defense systems

with improved surface-to-air missiles.

"That is a threat we have not faced yet with the F-15," Bolton said. "And we don't want to, because the results would not be good."

"What will allow us to face that threat is the F-22. That's what it was designed to do. So we'll be able to continue what we've enjoyed, which is air dominance. That's not just going up and controlling part of the sky, but going up and totally dominating the air battle to the point where if someone does come up, they know we can take them down."

The six F-22s, slated for delivery in 2002, will cost the Air Force nearly \$85 million per plane, and will be based at Nellis Air Force Base, Nev.

"The F-22 is an essential investment to achieve air dominance. It is the key enabler for 21st century combat operations," Bolton said.

"The reason the Air Force is pushing so hard on this aircraft is that it is truly a cornerstone for us," the general said. "If we don't control the air, we cannot protect the Airborne Warning and Control System; we cannot protect Joint Surveillance Attack Radar System; we cannot protect other force packages; and consequently, we can't help our colleagues on the ground or on the water."

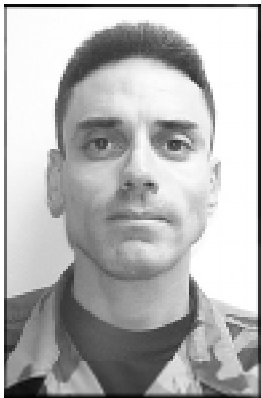
***The F-22 is designed to face modern adversarial aircraft equipped with advanced air-to-missile systems and against integrated air defense systems with improved surface-to-air missiles.***



Photo by 1st. Lt. Angela O'Connell

## Performing under pressure!

Senior Airman Monica Cantu, Health and Wellness Center, checks Master Sgt. Shirley Simon's, 47th Support Group first sergeant, blood pressure at the Family Support Center's open house Tuesday. The open house, which featured several stations of interest, was in observance of Military Family Appreciation Week.



Ortiz



Espinoza



Bea

## Three awarded Airman's Medal for lifesaving efforts during flood

Three members of the 47th Medical Group here received Airman's Medals Oct. 17 for their lifesaving efforts during the Del Rio floods Aug. 24, 1998.

Col. Winfield "Skip" Scott III, 47th Flying Training Wing commander, presented the awards.

Tech. Sgt. Rosendo Ortiz, Staff Sgt. Roberto A. Espinoza and Senior Airman Floyd B. Bea were members of base ambulance crews who responded to assistance calls in heavily flooded San Felipe residential areas. These medical specialists were credited with going above and beyond their assigned duties to treat the injured by performing search and rescue operations.

All three were cited for exemplary courage and heroism while risking their lives to rescue people of the Del Rio community. They also were credited with motivating others to hasten the search and rescue process, thus reducing the risk for more critical injuries to people who were incapacitated by the flood.

## Life insurance changes explained

Since June, benefits from the Servicemembers' Group Life Insurance program are placed into interest-bearing checking accounts upon the death of policy holders. The previous practice was to mail lump-sum checks mailed to beneficiaries. Now, beneficiaries receive a checkbook for an Alliance Account set up by Prudential Insurance Co., which runs the program.

Another change to the program took place in October. When a covered member dies, the beneficiary now will be offered free financial assistance for up to a year." Said Navy Capt. Elliot Bloxom, director of compensation for DoD.

"The firm of Ernst and Young will have financial coun-

selors contact the beneficiary, provide information and work with the beneficiary to develop a detailed step-by-step financial plan," Bloxom said. Both these

recent changes also affect the Veterans' Group Life Insurance program, which is offered to retiring and separating servicemembers as a continuation of the SGLI ben-

efit.

Bloxom said financial counseling could help everyone. That is why the services provide financial counseling to active duty members and families.

"This is a continuation of that effort," he said. "Obviously, anytime a large amount of funds becomes immediately available, we want to make sure our members and their beneficiaries have the widest range of options and educational opportunities available to them so

they can make the right choices."

Bloxom said the insurance plan is valuable for a number of reasons. "It has a flat fee; it's not based on age, not based on health; and it also has no restrictive clauses regarding combat or dangerous duties," he said.

Bloxom was quick to point out that these additions to the program come at no increased cost to servicemembers and do not indicate that a problem needed to be fixed.

"There are no problems with the SGLI or VGLI programs," said Bloxom. He explained the changes are being implemented merely to keep pace with practices in civilian companies.

"We continue to work to see that our people are afforded the same opportunity as any other citizen in the country," he said.

(Courtesy AFPN)

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***Financial counseling could help everyone. That is why the services provide financial counseling to active duty members and families.***

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# ‘Operation Dear Abby’ gets holiday mail to servicemembers overseas

**KELLY AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** — People wanting to send mail to military members serving overseas can do so with help from Abigail Van Buren.

Known through her syndicated newspaper column as “Dear Abby,” Van Buren has conducted “Operation Dear Abby,” a letter-writing campaign, for 15 years.

To ensure that the mail is received within the required time window and falls within the Defense Department security guidelines, the mail will be limited to First-Class letter mail of 13 ounces or less, according to officials at the Military Postal Service Agency

To send mail to a specific area, address it to the closest geographic hub, which will distribute the mail to all services in

the area that it supports. The following are the addresses:

■ Europe and Southwest Asia:  
Any Service Member  
OPERATION DEAR ABBY  
APO AE 09135

■ Mediterranean basin:  
Any Service Member  
OPERATION DEAR ABBY  
FPO AE 09646

■ Far East:  
Any Service Member  
Operation Dear Abby  
APO AP 96285

■ Pacific Basin:  
Any Service Member  
OPERATION DEAR ABBY  
FPO AP 96385

In order for the system to cover the widest possible area, the addresses must remain generic. Addresses other than those listed will not determine the distribution. For example; a letter addressed to a “soldier”

may be distributed to an airman, sailor or Marine.

“We are not targeting specific units or countries,” said Navy Capt. Eugene M. DuCom, MPSA deputy directory. “Rather we are targeting major U.S. military Aerial Mail Terminals and Fleet Mail Centers overseas. These mail hubs will receive the mail and distribute it on a fair-share basis to all services across the board.” DuCom said this system should preclude overburdening transportation assets or inundating specific units, and will provide wider distribution to service members.

The addresses listed above will only be open for the holiday period from Nov. 15 to Jan 15. After that, the United States Postal Service will no longer accept mail for these addresses.

(Courtesy AFPN)

## New arrivals

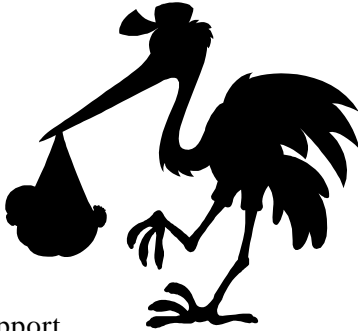
*Recent additions to Laughlin families are:*

**Branden D. Westby** – boy, 6 pounds, 14 ounces, born Nov. 18 to 2nd Lt. Eric and Calley Westby, 84th Flying Training Squadron.

**Esteban L. Arrendondo** – boy, 7 pounds, 4 ounces, born Nov. 4 to Staff Sgt. Rene and Tracy Arredondo. Esteban has two brothers, Jose and Michael.

**Ryan Todd Bender** – boy, 8 pounds, 13 ounces, born Oct. 30 to Capt. Jeffry and Jeanie Bender, 86th FTS.

**Tyler James Stanley** – boy, 7 pounds, 6 ounces, born Oct. 27 to Senior Airman Jason Stanley, 47th Operations Support Squadron and Airman 1st Class Melissa Stanley, 47th Medical Dental Support Squadron.





# The *XLer*

**Hometown:** Miami, Fla.  
**Family:** Three cats; Thirsty, Tiger and Shower.  
**Time at Laughlin:** 1 year, 5 months.  
**Time in service.:** 7 years.  
**Why did you join the Air Force family?**  
Seemed like a great alternative to going straight to college.  
**Name one way to improve life at Laughlin:**  
Offer ceramics or pottery classes.  
**Greatest accomplishment:** Help raise my nephew while my sister finished school.  
**Long-term goals:** Earn my bachelor's degree in psychology and buy my mom her dream home.  
**Hobbies:** Reading Oprah's book of the month and step-aerobics.  
**Favorite food:** Steak and blackened jumbo shrimp.  
**Favorite beverage:** Sweetened tea.  
**Bad habit:** I leave dirty dishes in the sink.  
**Motto:** If you want it done, do it yourself!  
**If you could spend one hour with an historical figure, who would it be and why?** Sigmund Freud, to figure out why he thought like he did.



Photo by Zenaphir Bond

**Staff Sgt. Roxanne Cortez**  
*87th Flying Training Squadron*

## Chapel Schedule

### Catholic

- Daily Mass 12:05 p.m.
- Saturday Mass 5 p.m.
- Sunday Mass 9:30 a.m.
- Confession 4:15 - 4:45 p.m. Saturday, or by appointment.
- Choir 6 p.m. Thursdays.
- Sunday school 11 a.m., religious education building.

fellowship hall.  
-Sunday School, 9:30 a.m., religious education building.  
-Awana, Wednesdays from 6 - 7:30 p.m.  
(For more information on AWANA, call Anthony or Nedjra Russell at 298-7504).

### Protestant

- General worship 11 a.m.
- Bible study video luncheon 11 a.m. Thursday, chapel

### Jewish

- Max Stool  
219 West Strickland St.  
Del Rio, Texas  
Phone: 775-4519

For more information on chapel events and services, call 5111.



**Look  
into it!**



**Talk to your  
local Air  
Force  
recruiter  
about  
joining the  
world's  
greatest  
aerospace  
force. Call,  
774-0911.**

## From the Blotter

(47th Security Forces Squadron)



**Nov. 15** – Patrols were dispatched to the Base Exchange in response to a report that a retiree had fainted. The individual was taken to Val Verde Medical Center.

**Nov. 16** – A dependent of an active-duty member reported damage to her privately owned vehicle in the commissary parking lot.

**Nov. 18** – Two privately owned vehicles operated by active-duty personnel collided at the base service station. The vehicles sustained minor damage.

**Citizen's police academy** – Do you have an interest in what your local police department does on a daily basis? Do you want to present your concerns as a citizen to local police officers? The Del Rio Police Department offers a Citizen's Police Academy to allow local residents, including base residents, the opportunity to experience and learn from

local law enforcement officers. The purpose of the academy is to increase interaction between the police and the citizens they serve. The class will meet once a week for 13 weeks, with two Saturday sessions built in for firearms training and hands-on patrol stops. Citizens will learn about their local department and its services. While attending the academy, the citizen can ride along with on-duty police officers responding to real-life calls for service. It is described by graduates as a very unique and eye-opening experience that very few people will ever have the opportunity to participate in. The next class begins on Jan. 6 and applications are currently being accepted. If you are interested or require more information you can access the Citizen's Police Academy web page at [www.delrio.com](http://www.delrio.com), or contact the Del Rio Police Department at 774-2711.

**EMERGENCY CALL 911, NON-EMERGENCY CALL 5100**

## Where are they now?

**Name:** Capt. Richard A. Fogle.

**Class/Date of graduation from Laughlin:** Class 93-01, November 1992.

**Aircraft you now fly and base you are stationed at:** C-17A, Charleston AFB, S.C.

**What do you like most about your current aircraft?** World travel and the people I fly and work with.

**What do you dislike most about your current aircraft?** Not knowing where I will be next week.

**Mission of your aircraft?** Global airlift.

**What was the most important thing you learned at Laughlin besides learning to fly?** Going back and forth to Austin and San Antonio without getting a ticket.

**What is your most memorable experience from Laughlin?** Weekend trips to my hometown, Austin.

**What advice would you give SUPT students at Laughlin?** Fly hard, play hard, and pick a heavy.





# Knowing changes to travel rules saves time, money

By Ed Jones

Traffic Management Office

One of the duties of the Traffic Management Office staff is to brief members on changes affecting them, especially involving temporary duty and permanent change of station moves.

Before I retired from the Air force in 1996, a lieutenant said to me “the only thing constant around here is change.” Over the past seven years TMO and the Air Force have gone through significant reorganizations. Within TMO it is very important that people are informed. Knowing new rules and current requirements prevents unnecessary trips to TMO or other interruptions in a member’s duty day and should help ensure your next PCS is a smooth move.

When arranging official travel in accordance with the Joint Federal Travel Regulation uniform servicemembers are required to use a commercial travel office, in-house travel office, General Services Administration, or travel manage-

ment center. This rule was recently updated in June 99. Travelers who arrange their itinerary through a CTO that is not under government contract or through a common carrier are not authorized reimbursement. The only exceptions to this rule are transoceanic travel and unusual circumstances. An example of a valid unusual circumstance is the traveler and orders approving official can demonstrate that they had no other alternative. Non-availability doesn’t mean the base travel office is closed for the day. Most contracted travel offices have toll-free numbers customers can call to purchase tickets, and they can arrange to pick up their tickets at the airport if

they’re not near the ticketing office.

Since the Defense Department amended its policy on official travel, federal employees whom inappropriately purchased tickets for official travel ended up paying for this travel out of their pockets. At Scott Air Force Base alone more than 20 military and civil service employees have had to pay nearly \$3,500 because they failed to coordinate their travel plans through a government-approved travel office. Some of the reasons that resulted in denied claims were:

1. Member was told by another member that they could be reimbursed.
2. Orders stated member could purchase tickets from a CTO not under government contract or an airline company.
3. Members were going on leave in conjunction with a TDY.
4. Member was unaware of the requirement to use a CTO under government contract.
5. Orders were prepared late and the members didn’t think they would have time to obtain tickets if they had

waited to use an approved facility.

6. Member was unaware of the existence of a CTO under government contract in the area.

7. Member had always been reimbursed in the past and was unaware of the change in the regulations.

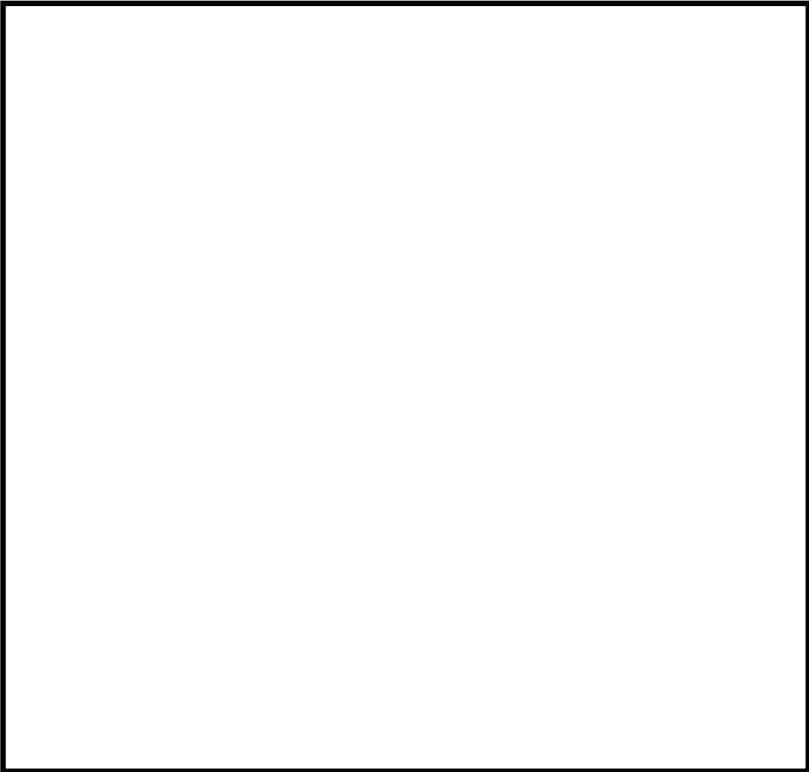
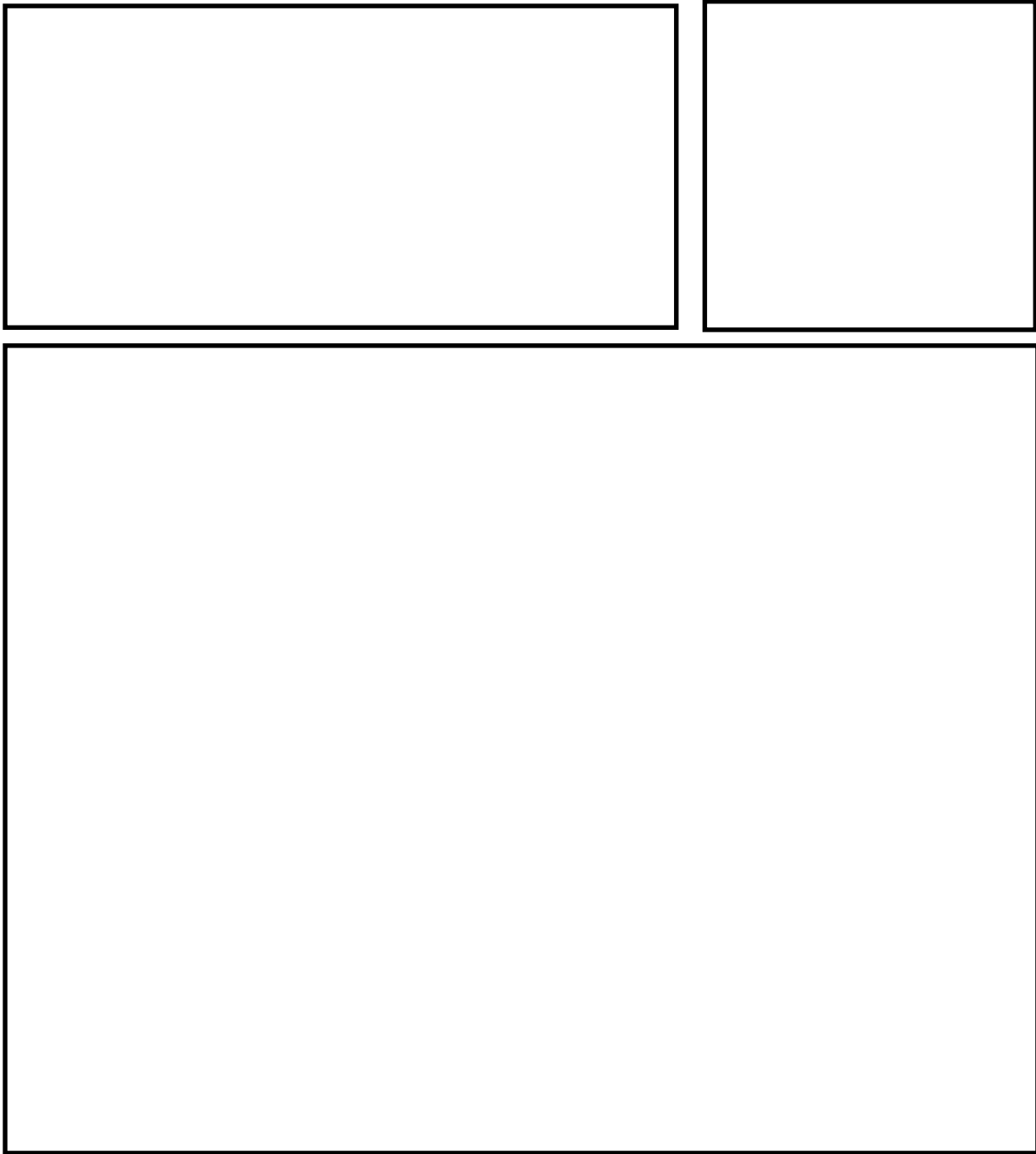
8. Member was trying to lessen the cost to the government.

Why did the DoD suddenly decide to get tough? The government has contracts with several airlines to provide reduced rates for official travel, and is required to pay these special rates. Many people believe they can save the government money when they book their own flights because advanced super-saver fares can often be lower than the government rates. However, what they really do is create a breach of contract

Keep in mind that contracted fares also offer protection to the member. For instance, if travelers need to change their tickets, there are no fees.

TMOs throughout the world experience instances where members purchase tickets in advance at a discount rate from a common carrier, only to have their trip canceled. Unfortunately, they can’t return the tickets or get their money back because they didn’t buy the tickets from a government-approved agency.

The only way to ensure this doesn’t happen is to make sure travelers contact Laughlin TMO at 5178 or SATO at 5205. After duty hours we may be contacted through the command post.



Question of the week  
**What is the mission here at  
Laughlin?**



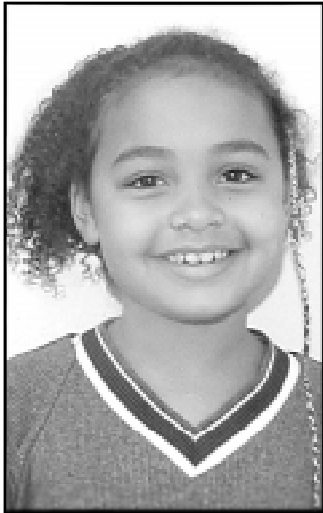
To protect people and make sure  
all people are good on the base.

**Seirra Bowman, 9**  
*Family member*



Help people to guide the air-  
planes. My dad gets to work on  
the engines.

**Sam Emerson, 8**  
*Family member*



To help other people off base.

**Jessica Savoie, 7**  
*Family member*



It is to help us have a better  
place to live.

**Krystalyn Elizardo, 9**  
*Family member*

Border Eagle deadline ...  
*is Thursday, the week prior  
to date of publication.*

# American Red Cross offers safety tips for pets in event of disaster

Pets enrich our lives in more ways than we can count. In turn, they depend on us for their safety and well being. The American Red Cross advises families to protect themselves from the effects of a disaster by having a disaster plan. If you are a pet owner, that plan must include your pets. Being pre-

pared can save their lives.

Red Cross shelters cannot accept pets because of state health and safety regulations. It may be difficult, if not impossible, to find shelter for your animals in the midst of a disaster, so plan ahead. Use these tips to help protect your pets in the event of a disaster:

- Contact motels and hotels outside of your immediate area to check policies on accepting pets. Ask if "no pet" policies could be waived in the event of an emergency. Keep a list of pet friendly places.

- Ask friends, relatives and others outside the affected area whether they could shelter your

animals.

- Prepare a list of boarding facilities and veterinarians who could shelter animals in an emergency; include 24-hour phone numbers.

- Assemble a portable pet disaster supplies kit that includes: medications and medical records; sturdy leashes, harnesses and pet carriers; current photos of your pet in case they get lost; food; potable water; bowls; litter pans; can opener and pet beds and toys.

- At the first hint of a disaster, bring your pets into the house so you won't have to search for them if you have to leave in a hurry.

- Make sure all dogs and cats are wearing collars securely

fastened with up-to-date identification. Attach the phone number of a friend outside the disaster area.

- Planning and preparation will enable you to evacuate with your pets quickly and safely. Remember that animals react differently under stress.

- Keep them securely leashed and contained and don't leave them unattended. When you return home, give your animals time to settle back into their routines.

- The San Antonio Area American Red Cross has more tips on disaster preparedness for your family and pets. Call (210) 224-5151 or (800) 775-6803 to receive a free brochure.

(Courtesy American Red Cross)





# Working parents need phone rules for children at home

**By Judy Rhinesmith**  
*47th Medical Group*

For most parents, the days are gone when one parent worked while the other stayed home, took care of the house and met the children at the door. Now, many children are left to fend for themselves after school until a parent gets home. The periods when children are home alone can be the most anxious for the working parents.

A parent could get the dreaded emergency phone call from home. When a child surprises you at work with a panicked or grief-stricken telephone call, don't feel you have to drop everything. Learn to diffuse potentially volatile situations. It is easy for a parent to overreact or become unnecessarily worried before learning needed information.

Calls are often about a minor mishap that can be handled easily. Ask key

questions and extract the information you need to determine whether or not there is a real emergency. Sometimes children have a gut reaction about something, or it could be an actual emergency. The most effective way to handle this type of situation is to first find out what is really going on.

Ask questions and listen very closely to your child's responses. Draw from the knowledge you have of your child, and remember to add his or her particular fears or concerns into the distress equation. Your child will likely have patterns of behavior that are familiar to you. Relate key words and phrases to those patterns of loneliness or resentment the child may have because you're not home to attend to them.

One effective method is to “echo back” what you hear. For example, if your child says, “I feel sick,” repeat back in a calm, understanding voice, “You feel sick?”

Tell me more.” Whatever your child’s response, repeat it back in the form of a question to draw more information, and pinpoint exactly what’s causing the feelings.

If you become convinced that no actual emergency exists, tell your child that you understand and you will talk more about it when you get home, but you have to finish your work. Tell him or her you're glad you talked about the situation and you will be happy to discuss it more when you get home. Always reassure your child that you love him or her.

If there is a real emergency, try to remain calm so that you can listen and think clearly and keep your child calm as well. There should be a plan of action to handle a variety of emergencies that can occur in the home. For instance, if there is fire, your child should know to call you from the home of a trusted neighbor, a phone booth or a cellular phone at a safe distance outside a burning house. Go over plans with your children regularly and remind them that the first call during a real emergency should be to 911.

Remember that calls from children to working parents usually are an emergency only in the mind of the child.

**See 'Calls,' page 18**

It's That Time For The  
47th Flying Training Wing  
**COOKIE CAPER**

TIS THE SEASON TO GIVE COOKIES !  
We will be accepting cookies for all of  
Laughlin's unaccompanied personnel from  
6th-9th of December.  
So this means:  
"HELP ! WE NEED LOTS OF COOKIES PLEASE "

DROP OFF LOCATIONS ARE:

Kathy Scott	9018 Arnold Blvd
Tracy Jarman	9019 Arnold Blvd
Suzanne Bertholf	9020 Arnold Blvd
Candy Stutzriem	9021 Arnold Blvd
Tammy Donatucci	9023 McConnell St
Sally Quimby	9026 McConnell St
Julie Nickerson	9223 A Carlson St
Rachel Crist	8206 A O'Brien St

Please place cookies in ziploc ( three to a  
bag if possible) and place them in the  
coolers on the porches of locations. For more  
info call Tammy Donatucci at 298-3457

**‘Mexico,’ from page 1**

lot of confusion and aggravation. There will be a tax on liquor and alcohol purchased.

The following agencies are great sources of information for travel in Mexico:

- Port of Customs, Ciudad Acuna, 830-775-8502
- Trade Commission of Mexico (potential Mexican suppliers for business), 830-775-9748.
- The Ciudad Acuna Chamber of Commerce, 011-528-77-2-5015.

Ultimately, it boils down to taking your common sense with you. As long as you follow the golden rule of treating others like you’d like to be treated and take a couple of extra precautions, you should have a great day ( although your bank account may not).

For more information and travel brochures, please contact the Del Rio Chamber of Commerce at 775-3551.

**‘Refocus,’from page 2**

forts.

3. Make full use of life’s experiences. Each obstacle or disappointment is an opportunity to turn inward and discover your own deeper resources of strength. As time passes, you will become aware of an array of personal strengths, which you can use to overcome any difficulty that may arise. To appreciate the importance of personal honor and strength, read about the experiences of Vice Admiral James Stockdale, former Vietnam POW. He exemplifies what one individual with an unbreakable spirit can endure and overcome despite unimaginable hardships.

4.Resolve yourself to the fact that justice, goodness and order are naturally occurring conditions. It is my belief that the divine force, which I refer to as God, is the ultimate intelligence, goodness and omnipotence. With that perspective, nothing occurs randomly. Nothing is meaningless; everything is ordered and purposeful. Accepting this premise allows one to deal effectively with difficult circumstances and unexpected disappointments.

5.Happiness should be your aim. Happiness is the ongoing dynamic performance of worthy deeds. In this pursuit, a person matures spiritually. With maturity comes enlightenment, with enlightenment comes wisdom and with wisdom comes happiness.

6.To live wisely, relinquish self-conceit and remove egotistical inclinations. Acknowledge your limitations and set the stage

for learning and personal growth. New challenges and experiences are meant to enrich our lives and advance us to new levels of competency and knowledge.

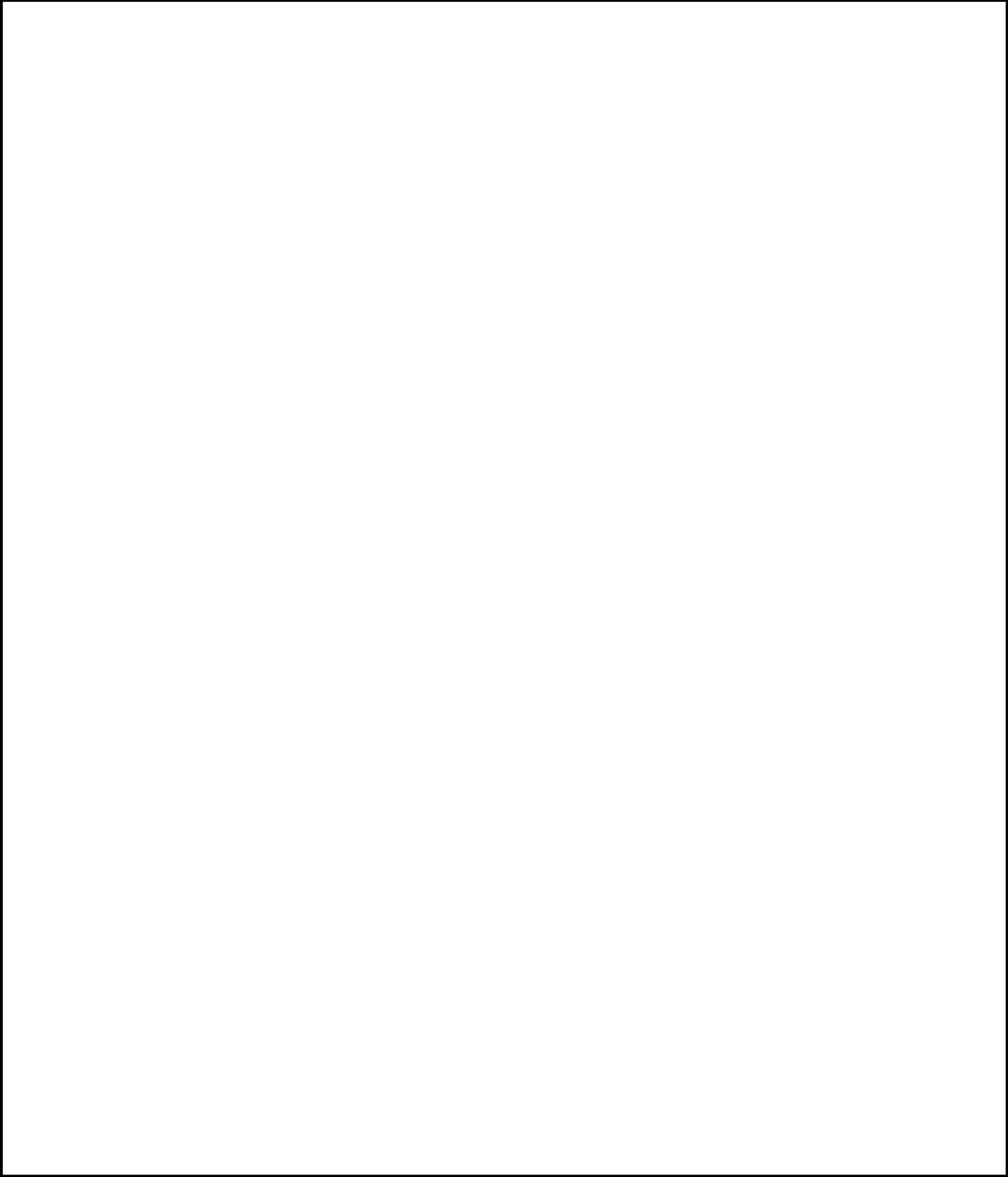
7.Be a citizen of the world. Seeking the very best within ourselves requires being involved in the welfare of others. Personal actions based on narrow self-interests are self-serving and spiritually demeaning.

Through service to others one develops spiritually and personally toward his or her full potential.

8.Be kind to yourself and to those you associate with, whether they are dear to you or strangers. Be patient and suspend your judgment. The old saying “... walk a mile in my shoes” means no one is aware of the world that each of us lives. Almost everyone is doing the

best they can.

9.Virtue is our purpose. Goodness itself is both the practice and the reward. We should continually fine-tune our thoughts, words and deeds in a wholesome direction. Virtue becomes inherent in our intentions and deeds, not in the results of the act. A virtuous life holds spiritual growth, strength and personal honor as your treasures.



‘Calls,’ from page 16

While great at home, talking to children to long or often at work can cause problems.

Many employers know that some personal calls are unavoidable and even expected. Of course, employers also are concerned about an employee’s attention to work. Keep your employer happy and help your children limit calls by making sure your kids understand what is required of them.

It is reasonable for a parent to get a check-in call from a child saying he or she is home now. This call is important for parental peace of mind and to ensure a child’s safety. You can’t be very productive while worrying about your child. Identify the most convenient time in your business day to receive a brief check-in call and encourage your child to adhere to it. Knowing when the call should come minimizes disruptions at work.

Be clear about the types of calls you will not permit at the office. A discussion about dinner plans and clothing selections, or at-

tempts to resolve disputes should not be handled over the phone. Make some rules regarding these types of calls.

Planning is the key:

- Plan menus for the week and shop on weekends.
- Set aside a time each evening to plan clothes for the next day.
- If you want several chores accomplished after school and expect a fuss, negotiate those problems ahead of time.
- Make sure everyone knows the rules of your household. When you’re home and relaxed is the best time to discuss the little issues your child was aching to call you about.

Explain why it’s important that you do not receive unnecessary interruptions. Encourage your children to learn to take charge. They may even enjoy their freedom and feel empowered because you trust them with responsibility.

Follow these suggestions to succeed in attending to your child’s concerns and keep the lines of communication open. You’ll meet obligations to both your job and your family.

Commissary Web site gets more customer-focused

**FORT LEE, Va.** — Commissary shoppers can find out more about what their store offers in sales and services thanks to the new and improved Defense Commissary Agency Web site.

The agency switched its address from <http://www.deca.mil> to <http://www.commissaries.com> Nov. 15. The move provides greater security for DeCA’s electronic information systems. What is apparent to the customer, however, is the redesign of the site that makes it more customer-friendly.

“This is not the same old Web site with just a new look. Each of our commissaries now has the ability to post items of shopper interest on their store pages featured on our site,” said Tim Ford, DeCA’s director of public affairs.

Some of the new features include:

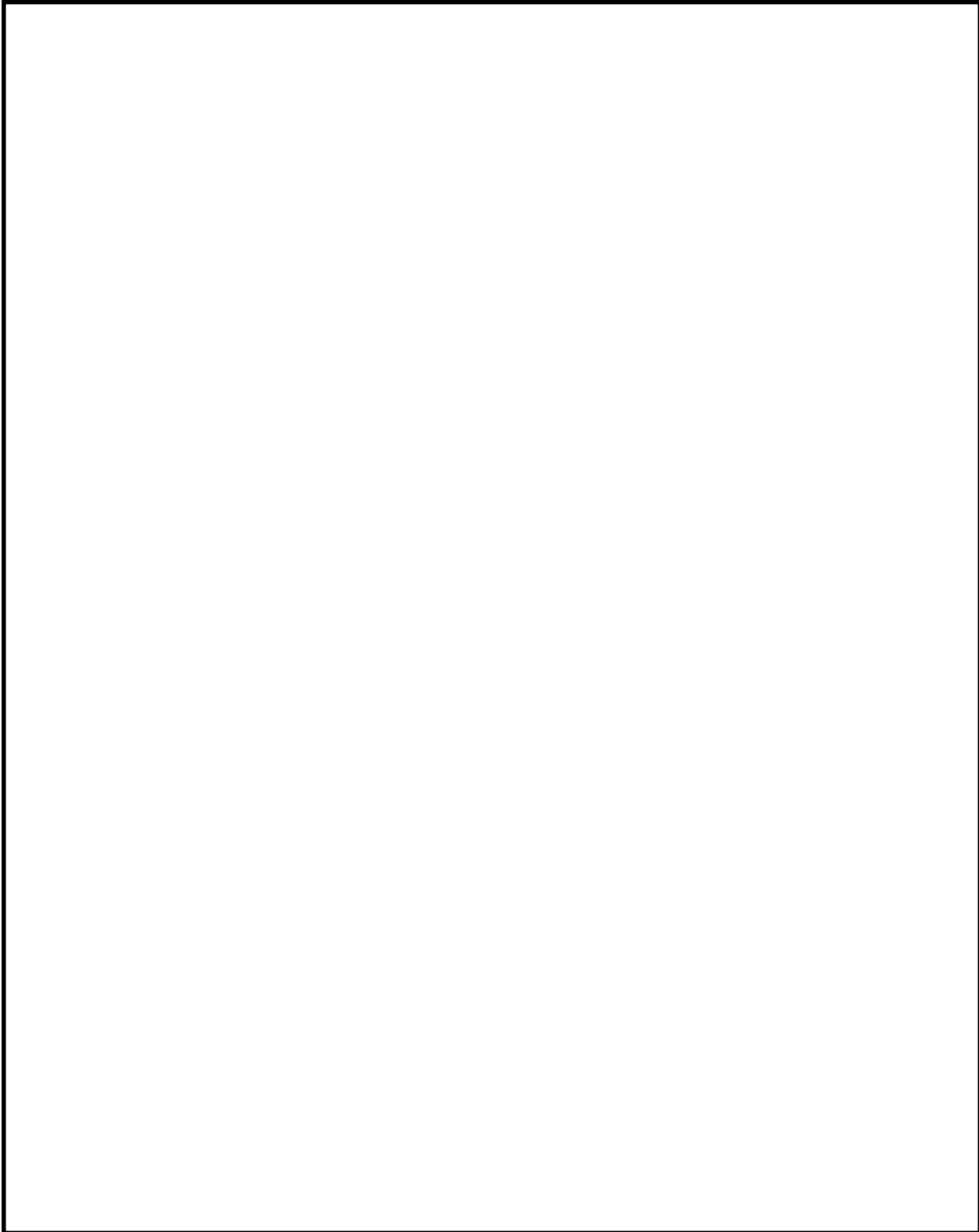
- Interactive maps. Just click on the dot with your commissary’s name and you’ll be taken to the store’s page. For those who don’t use maps, the stores are listed by regions or alphabetically.
- Commissary pages. These pages are more than just hours of operation and phone numbers. Stores can highlight special services like delis, bakeries, pre-prepared home meal selections or fresh fish markets. They can announce dates of truckload sales or post other special announcements.
- Driving instructions. If you’re new to an installation, it is easy to find the commissary by following the driving instructions posted on your commissary store page.
- Food safety information and recipes. Want to know more about what you can do with the groceries? Go to the “Links Page” where there are more links to sites with recipes and food safety information.
- Shopper’s cart. Customers can learn how much they can save off the regular low commissary prices on items featured in the “Shopper’s Cart” section. Easy links from store pages take visitors to the shopper’s cart.

“We’ve done a lot of listening to our customers since our Web site went live two years ago, and the changes we’ve made are a result of what customers have told us,” said Kaye Kennedy, DeCA’s consumer advocate.

DeCA’s Web site also has features that serve its grocery industry partners. Almost everything a business needs to know about doing business with DeCA can be found in the Web site’s business section.

Those looking for a job can check out the “Inside DeCA” section of the site and look for the job announcements link. There are also sections detailing Fraud, Waste and Abuse reporting procedures and procedures for filing Freedom of Information Act requests.

(AFPN)



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# Finch speaks on making Air Force stronger

**By Master Sgt. Dan Carpenter**

39th Wing Public Affairs

When Chief Master Sgt. of the Air Force Jim Finch entered the military nearly 25 years ago, the nation was making its way out of the Vietnam era, and the noncommissioned officers he worked for were draftees.

During a recent speech, Finch shared how today's Air Force has made huge strides, but continues to fight to be better and stronger in leaner times.

"In 1974, at the end of the Vietnam era, we did a lot of mobility exercises, but we had a hard time identifying with the real need," he said. "The most significant impact is that in today's Air Force we go out and do real-world missions."

"In today's environment, we have people deployed all over

the world. Our pace of operations is four times what it was in the 1980s, and certainly a lot

greater than it was in the 1970s," he said.

With promotions looking good, the chief explained the realities of advancement and how he sees the future of promotions.

"Promotions have been very good the last couple of years. We're in the process of plussing up the number of NCOs (non-commissioned officers) relative to the entire enlisted force — up to about 56 percent from just over 48 percent," he said. "In or-

der to do that, we'll have to increase promotions. So, over the next few years, promotions look very, very good."

Retention, and what drives it, were consistent topics of discussion for the chief as he spent time talking with airmen during his Nov. 10 to 11 visit.

"We're always trying to find out what drives retention," he said. "What we've heard as we talk to people around the world is that there are a variety of issues affecting people's decision to stay in the Air Force. Among them are retirement systems and the operation's pace."

And while the expeditionary

aerospace force concept will provide predictability and stability for the force, it won't solve all our problems, said Finch.

"It does not affect all of our Air Force. But by and large, the people who do the lion's share of the deployments should feel better about the way operations go in the future," he added.

While concerned about why people are choosing to leave the military, the chief emphasized that military leaders are concerned for the safety and well-being of those who remain. One issue that he gets asked about anthrax everywhere he goes.

"The anthrax concern is very real. Part of our responsibility as leaders, when we put people in harm's way, is to do everything we can to protect them," said the chief.

(Courtesy AFPN)

must then be euthanized to prevent overcrowding.

Untagged animals wait at the shelter three days and must be claimed or adopted within this time. An animal with tags receives six working days. Saturday and Sunday are not working days. "Putting tags on pets greatly increases the chance that they will be returned safely to the owner," said Garcia. "When a person gets tags for his animal, he should put them directly on the animal. A lot of the time, while people's animals are sitting in the shelter, their tags are on top of their owner's refrigerator where they can't do the animal any good," he continued.

Though the average time allowed each animal in the shelter is short, there is a program that can extend the life of an animal for one week.

The way the program works is a volunteer chooses a Pet of the Week and that pet is then advertised in the newspaper and on the radio in hope of being adopted or claimed by its original owner.

Though I left the shelter with a dog of my own, I felt compelled to take them all with me. However, being realistic, I realized I couldn't actually do that. Therefore, I encourage everyone to pay a visit to the shelter and perhaps consider adopting a new family member to have around the house during the holidays. I'm sure the animals of the shelter will appreciate it.

For more information on animal adoption, call the City of Del Rio Animal Shelter at 774-8624. Shelter visiting hours are Monday – Friday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Saturday and Sunday from 9 a.m.

United States Air Force  
**ONLINE  
news**



Find out what people are saying about your Air Force in Letters to the Editor.

Go to

<http://www.af.mil/newspaper>

# DoD announces new fitness program

The Defense Department is starting a new program to improve the physical fitness of its people.

Operation Be Fit will serve as a blueprint to foster a renewed emphasis on the physical fitness of the entire military community, said Fred Pang, assistant secretary of defense for force management policy. It will also let the Department of Defense set the standard and assume national leadership in comprehensive physical fitness programs and activities.

The operation will focus on improving and expanding programs in fitness and sports, plus recreation activities involving physical activity. DoD also will take steps to encourage all members of the military community to participate in the programs.

This initiative will build on programs already within each of the services by combining expertise within the department. It will add DoD emphasis and endorsement to these efforts.

Pang praised the initiative. “Maintaining the peace through military training and preparedness — and fighting a war if necessary — calls for men and women who are extremely fit,” he said. “What we spend in fitness, sports and recreation programs that lead to physical fitness is an investment. It’s the human side of force modernization.

“When military community participation in regular physical activity increases,” he added, “we free up health care dollars that can be used for other critical needs. We also get the significant benefit of having a total work force that does the job better than ever before.”

Besides military readiness, Pang’s memorandum cites the findings of the July 1996 U.S. Surgeon General’s Report on Physical Activity and Health as an important reason to undertake this physical fitness.

The report found that regular physical activity is associated with a decreased incidence of disease, substan-

tially improved overall physical and mental health and an improved quality of life.

In December, DoD played host to a fitness forum that included senior representatives from the military departments and the Joint Chiefs of Staff, the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs, the President’s Council on Physical Fitness and Sports and other agencies.

The forum put the final endorsement on the DoD initiative and set the course for work to develop standards for fitness activities. It also approved a campaign to encourage increased use of military fitness, sports and recreation activities.

Sandra Perlmutter, the President’s Council on

Physical Fitness and Sports executive director, commended the DoD announcement.

“The Surgeon General’s Report on Physical Activity and Health is a landmark document in our nation’s understanding of a public health threat,” she said, “much like the 1964 Surgeon General’s report on the hazards of smoking turned out to be.

“Our goal is to encourage all Americans to become more physically active so they can receive the many very real benefits associated with an active life-style.”

Perlmutter commended DoD for being the first federal agency to embrace the findings in the report and develop a specific action plan to increase physical activity among its work force and their families.

“We hope other government organizations will follow suit,” she said. “The President’s Council on Physical Fitness and Sports looks forward to working with the Department of Defense on implementation of this plan.”

DoD expects to begin rolling out the completed standards and actions associated with this initiative this fall.

***“Maintaining the peace through military training and preparedness – and fighting a war if necessary – calls for men and women who are extremely fit.”***

**–Fred Pang**  
*assistant secretary of defense for force management*



Photo by 1st Lt. Angela O’Connell

## On the road again!

Cindy Lyday, student pilot family member, placed first in the 5K Fun Run held on base Saturday. The race began and ended at the XL Fitness Center. She finished with a time of 23 minutes, 27 seconds. Matt Allen finished first in the male category with a time of 18:25.

(Courtesy AFNS)

## Intramural flag football standings

AFC	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>	NFC	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>
CES I	2	0	87th	2	0
87th II	2	0	OSS	2	0
86th	1	0	85th	1	0
SFS	1	1	LSI	1	0
OSS II	0	1	MSS	0	2
CON/SVS	0	2	CES II	0	2
47 MED	0	2	LCSAM	0	2



## Bowling standings

(as of Nov. 25.)

Teams	<u>W</u>	<u>L</u>
OSS	56	21
Services	44	33
47 MED	42	35
47 SFS	41	36
CES	39	38
Boeing	37	40
47 FTW	36	41
CDC	34	43
47 MSS	34	43
47 COMM	22	55

# Female photographer totes hockey stick in man’s game

**By Master Sgt. Brian Hibbard**  
*52nd Fighter Wing Public Affairs*

If you wanted to play sports in Framingham, Mass., where Kimberlie Drews grew up, you had three choices as a kid: you learned to pass a football, handle a hockey stick or skate a figure eight.

With her older sister, Kelly, enrolled in figure skating lessons and her older brother, John, playing ice hockey, Kimberlie, then 5 years old, was naturally drawn to the ice — but not in the way her mother, Jo Ann Sawyer, expected.

“My mom signed me up for figure skating lessons with my sister,” recalled Drews, now an airman first class assigned to the 52nd Communications Squadron at Spangdahlem Air Base, Germany. “I hated it. Those skaters didn’t like me and I didn’t like them, so I asked my parents if I could play hockey like my brother.”

Being the supportive mother, Sawyer called Framingham Youth Hockey Program coordinators to find out where she could sign her daughter up and was told it was for boys only.

“I tried to sign her up on a girls team, but the commute was impossible,” she said. “Kimberlie was very disappointed.

“I didn’t think it was fair, so I wrote a letter to the town newspaper explaining my predicament,” she recalled. “The response was quick and it caused quite a stir.”

Because of that letter, Sawyer says reporters from

the newspaper wanted to interview Kimberlie. Soon after, the Framingham Youth Hockey Program was no longer just for boys.

Since then, the 25-year-old has played on both men’s and women’s teams at various skill levels.

A year and a half ago, Drews fulfilled another of her dreams when she enlisted in the Air Force.

“I wanted to join because my grandfather was a pilot in the Air Force and my uncle, who’s also a pilot, is still in the Air Force,” she said.

Today, Drews is an Air Force photographer. During the weekdays, you can find her peering through the lens of her camera capturing im-

ages of Air force life. On Sunday nights, however, you can see her sporting jersey No. 6 on the Bitburg Bears German-American men’s hockey team.

Although its popularity is growing among women, ice hockey remains a predominantly male sport in which fist fights regularly break out, and checking and body slamming are part of the game.

During a recent game, two fights broke out in the first period alone.

“It’s been a while since I’ve been in a fight, but it’s all part of the game,” said Drews.

Drews, who at 5-foot-7-inches and 130 pounds is smaller than most male competitors, said she has teammates back her up if a punch is thrown.

But her opponents shouldn’t mistake size for weakness. She’ll be the first to admit she’s not as strong as her opponents, who on average weigh more than 200

pounds and stand more than 6 feet tall, but that doesn’t stop her from slamming them into the boards. And that doesn’t stop them from slamming her right back.

“For a woman to be slamming a man like that is awesome,” said Drew’s friend, Airman 1st Class Michelle Sweeney, 52nd Security Forces Squadron. “They’ll knock her down and she gets right back up in their faces. I love it.”

Since hitting the rinks 19 years ago, Drews has suffered cuts and bruises, a broken arm and a concussion which she doesn’t remember but that her mom insists happened.

“It’s embarrassing,” she said about getting slammed or falling. “It hurts my ego more than anything else.”

According to one of her teammates, Tim O’Neil, it’s her skill that makes up for her size.

“She has a good head for the game,” said the master sergeant, who is also a member of the 52nd CS. “She’s a good passer and she always gets the puck to player.”

Drews says her agility with the stick comes from the years she played on women’s teams.

“In women’s hockey there’s no checking, so there’s a lot more finesse and skill involved,” she explained. “In men’s hockey there’s a lot more strength and endurance.”

Although her mom admits she worries sometimes when her daughter plays against men, she says she has complete faith in her.

If a choice had to be made, Drews says she’d definitely stick to men’s hockey.

“It’s faster and more competitive. There’s more camaraderie,” she said. “I’m not saying there aren’t women’s teams out there that aren’t competitive, but there are women’s teams I’ve been on where it feels more like a social gathering than a sporting event.”

## New players’ picks for NFL week 12

Each correct pick of weekly matchups earns a player one point, accumulating weekly. The top three players from the second half of the season will compete against the top three from the first half to determine the overall champion at the end of the playoffs. This weeks matchups are (home teams in bold): CHI – **DET**, MIA – **DAL**, ARI – **NYG**, CIN – **PIT**, JAX – **BAL**, K.C. – **OAK**, N.E. – **BUF**, N.O. – **STL**, NYJ – **IND**, PHI – **WAS**, S.D. – **MIN**, T.B. – **SEA**, TEN – **CLE**, ATL – **CAR**, G.B. – **S.F.**

<i>Les</i> <i>McCracken</i>	<i>Mike</i> <i>McNeil</i>	<i>Johnny</i> <i>Rincon</i>	<i>Dave</i> <i>LeRoy</i>	<i>Charlie</i> <i>Rodriquez</i>	<i>Ryan</i> <i>Anderson</i>	<i>Amanda</i> <i>Stewart</i>	<i>Danny</i> <i>Gutierrez</i>
DET	DET	DET	DET	DET	CHI	CHI	DET
MIA	MIA	DAL	MIA	MIA	MIA	MIA	DAL
NYG	ARI	NYG	NYG	NYG	ARI	NYG	NYG
PIT	<b>CIN</b>	PIT	PIT	PIT	PIT	PIT	PIT
JAX	JAX	JAX	JAX	JAX	JAX	JAX	JAX
OAK	OAK	OAK	OAK	OAK	OAK	<b>K.C.</b>	OAK
BUF	BUF	BUF	N.E.	N.E.	BUF	N.E.	BUF
STL	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL	STL
IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	IND	<b>NYJ</b>
WAS	WAS	WAS	WAS	WAS	WAS	WAS	WAS
MIN	MIN	MIN	MIN	MIN	MIN	MIN	MIN
SEA	SEA	SEA	SEA	SEA	SEA	<b>T.B.</b>	SEA
TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN	TEN
CAR	CAR	CAR	CAR	CAR	CAR	CAR	CAR
G.B.	G.B.	G.B.	G.B.	G.B.	G.B.	G.B.	G.B.

## Week 11 results

**Johnny Rincon – 32**

(week 11 winner, 12 pts.)

**Ryan Anderson – 27**

**Mike McNeil – 27**

**Charlie Rodriguez – 26**

**Amanda Stewart – 25**

**Dave LeRoy – 24**

**Les McCracken – 24**

**Danny Gutierrez – 23**

(Les McCracken has replaced Anthony Abridello for the rest of the season. His starting score is the average of all scores up to this point).



## OSC social

The Officer Spouse Club will have a holiday social 6:30 p.m. Dec. 7 at Club XL. The Del Rio High School Choir is scheduled to perform.

Everyone planning to attend whose last name starts with a letter A-L should RSVP to Teresa Reneau at 298-1206. People with names starting M-Z should RSVP to Stacey Lilley at 768-3690.

## Housing notes

The Military Family Housing staff asks that housing residents notify the housing office 30-45 days prior to departing the base. This allows the staff to better serve incoming personnel. Permanent Change of Station orders are not needed at time of notification.

Reserve and Air National Guard members residing in housing whose original orders have expired should provide MFH with a copy of amendments to extend active duty service.

Housing applicants who are renting or leasing a residence in Del Rio while awaiting housing should keep MFH informed of current duty and home phone numbers and lease length.

For more information, call 5732 or 5733.

## Holiday dinner

The Laughlin Top Three will be hosting the second annual enlisted singles holiday dinner from 11 a.m. until 1 p.m. Dec. 17 at the Chapel annex. Single enlisted members are encouraged to come enjoy the food and social interaction company.

For more details, call Master Sgt. Irene Sampsell at 4393.

## Card contest

Base groups, squadron and flights are invited to participate in the annual holiday card contest. The rules are as follows:

- Pick up a white plywood board at the pride store. There are 15 available; first-come, first-served. These are available now.
- Create a holiday scene or picture.
- Turn it in to the Pride Store by noon Dec. 6.

Civil Engineer Squadron personnel will mount the cards near the main gate for viewing. First, second and third place awards will be given out at the wing tree lighting ceremony 5:30 p.m. Dec. 6.

Judges for the holiday card contest will be made known via "the grapevine." All judges are open to bribes, in the spirit of the season. So your unit can win an award even if you don't have a lot of artistic talent.

For more information, contact Chaplain (Capt.) James Bailey at 5111.

## Student grants

The Air Force Aid Society awarded more than \$7.5 million in education grants last year to 5,000 college students. No one in need of assistance should assume that he won't qualify for this \$1,500 grant. The AFAS has tailored the program to meet reasonable needs of



Photo by 1st Lt. Angela O'Connell

## Gift of giving

Liz Reimer, military spouse, donates imperishable food items during the Company Grade Officer Council's can food drive Saturday. Food collected during the drive was donated to the Bethel Center in Del Rio, which helps people with various needs from clothing to lodging and utilities assistance. More than 100 pounds of food were donated during the event.

Air Force families. Applications can be picked up at the Family Support Center.

For more information, call 5109.

## Courtesy van

Due to limited services available at the base medical clinic, beneficiaries are often referred to San Antonio for more specialized treatment. Anyone referred to San Antonio can ride to and from his appointment in a courtesy van provided by the Transportation Squadron.

For a ride, call the Tricare Flight at 298-6301.

## Personnel management

The Air Force Civilian Personnel Management Course, designed for both civilian and military supervisors, will be conducted Dec. 6-9.

Training is mandatory for new supervisors of three or more civilian employees. Those people have been identified and are scheduled to attend. New military supervisors of civilian employees and civilian supervisors, not identified, who want to attend should call

Patricia Fleming at 5806. Requests must be received by Tuesday.

## Captain selections

The calendar year 2000B captain central selection boards for line of the Air Force, medical service corps, biomedical science corps and nurse corps are tentatively scheduled to convene March 27, 2000, at the Air Force Personnel Center.

Tentative eligibility criteria:

■ Above-the-promotion zone – the date of rank for all categories is Dec. 31, 1998, or earlier with previous nonselection.

■ In-the-promotion zone – the date of rank for line of Air Force is Jan. 1-Dec. 31; medical service corps, nurse corps and biomedical science corps is Jan 1-June 30.

■ Extended active duty date of March 26, 2000, or earlier.

■ Date of separation, if any, of June 25, 2000, or later.

For more information, call Mary Heinrich at 5246.

## Funds authorization

When an activity or another installation is given authorization to cite Laughlin funds for official travel, a fund control number must be provided for tracking purposes. Instructions must also be provided to the requesting activity to cite the FCN on the travel orders.

Usually, the control number assigned to the Air Force Form 616, authorization to cite funds, is used as the FCN.

For more information, call 5203.

## Tests offered

The education office will administer the American College Testing exam Wednesday at 8 a.m. To sign up and get an ACT booklet, go to building 316.

People requiring more information or who need to take the Scholastic Aptitude Test should call 5545.

## Temporary duty expenses

The following guidance is from the Joint Federal Travel Regulation and provides terms for reimbursement of travel expenses associated with temporary duty:

Part F, paragraph U3510, travel in the TDY location – reimbursement for transportation expenses in the TDY area may be authorized for travel between:

- lodging and duty site;
- duty sites; or
- lodging or duty site and dining facility.

Conditions for entitlement – when a member is on TDY and suitable meals or lodging cannot be obtained at the place of duty, the order-issuing official may authorize reimbursement for travel as indicated.

The member must furnish an acceptable statement that government transportation was not available or, if available, was not suitable for the travel involved.

Orders approval officials authorize reimbursement by signing block 21a of the DD Form 1351-2, Travel Voucher.